Whereas, as the 2007-2008 school year draws to a close, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to applaud the career achievements of those individuals who are retiring from the field of education; and

Whereas, the Chillicothe R-II School District is losing a valuable member of its faculty on May 23, 2008, with the retirement of Phil Willard who has devoted several years of his life to the education of this state's young citizens through tireless endeavors as an educator; and

Whereas, Phil Willard has taught for seventeen years at Chillicothe R-II, where he is held in high esteem as an educator who demonstrates considerable competence and remarkable degrees of compassion and understanding; and

Whereas, deeply committed to the great cause of learning, Phil Willard served as the Activities Director and a Coach in the Moberly School District for thirteen years and as a Physical Education Teacher, a Biology Teacher, and a Coach in the Kearney R-I School District for one year prior to assuming his responsibilities at Chillicothe R-II, where he served as an A+ Coordinator, Assistant Basketball Coach, and an Assistant Wrestling Coach before taking on the duties of Athletic Director, Physical Education Teacher, and Head Football Coach; and

Whereas, Phil Willard has watched his pupils grow, develop, and mature through the knowledge he has imparted to them both as a teacher and as a friend; and

**Whereas**, named Chillicothe High School Teacher of the Year and Northwest District Athletic Director of the Year, Phil Willard has supported his profession as a member of the Missouri Athletic Administrators Association, the Missouri Football Coaches Hall of Fame, and the Missouri Valley College Athletic Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, Phil Willard has been blessed with the love and support of a wonderful family whose members include his wife, Debra Willard; and two children, Alexandria Willard and Jack Willard:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join the Chillicothe R-II School District in expressing appreciation for the unparalleled service that Phil Willard has rendered to Missouri's children and in wishing him the long, fruitful, and enjoyable retirement that he so justly deserves; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Phil Willard, as a measure of our esteem for him.

Offered by	
	Representative John Quinn
	District No. 7

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 2871, adopted May 8, 2008.